

REMARKS

Claims 1-55 are pending in the application. Claims 1, 9, and 21 have been amended and claim 20 has been canceled, leaving claims 1-19 and 21-55 for consideration upon entry of the present Amendment.

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's indication that claims 7-24, 30-44, 46-53, and 55 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Claims 1-6, 25-29, 45, and 54 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mogamiya (US 6,272,290). Applicants have incorporated the limitation from claim 20, which the Examiner has indicated is an allowable claim, into claim 1. Accordingly, because claims 2-6, 25-29, 45, and 54 include all of the limitations of claim 1, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejections to the claims be withdrawn.

Claims 9 and 21 were amended to correct a typographical error.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the instant application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that this application be allowed and a Notice of Allowance issued. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference with Applicants' attorneys would be advantageous to the disposition of this case, the Examiner is cordially requested to telephone the undersigned.

In the event the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks deems additional fees to be due in connection with this application, Applicants' attorney hereby authorizes that such fee be charged to Deposit Account No. 06-1130.

Respectfully submitted,

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